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PORTSLADE-BY-SEA

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REPORT



of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1952

by  
N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.



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# REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1952

by

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

## SANITARY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Councillor A. J. BROOMFIELD, J.P.

*(Chairman of the Council).*

*Chairman*—Councillor H. A. KING.

Councillor Mrs. E. F. CAVE, J.P.

Councillor S. HARRIS.

Councillor W. HUNT.

Councillor W. E. PHILLIPS.

Councillor C. T. SMITH.

Councillor Mrs. B. M. STEPHENS.

Councillor Mrs. A. M. WILLIAMS.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—

A. DONALD, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., C.R.S.I.

# Urban District of Portslade-by-Sea

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## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1952.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1952—a year which in respect of vital statistics, general illness and infectious disease, can be regarded as a normal one. The population showed an increase of 10 over that for the previous year, thus suggesting that the movement out of London to the coast for residential purposes has now ceased. Families nowadays, broadly speaking, only move because they have to and not because they want to. There was a slight increase in the total number of deaths and a decrease in the number of births, which is reflected in the two rates—a rise from 11.74 to 12.12 in the Death Rate and a fall in the Birth Rate from 12.84 to 11.26. The Infant Mortality Rate rose from 16 to 31 but the Stillbirths fell from 50 to 25.

The Notifications of Infectious Diseases showed no special significance. It was neither a Measles nor a Whooping Cough year and cases of Scarlet Fever were somewhat lower than in 1951. It was curious that whilst Hove had 25 cases of Poliomyelitis, Portslade had only 1, a phenomenon for which there does not appear to be any acceptable explanation. Diphtheria was again absent during the year, which is a matter for congratulation and a tribute to the effect of the previous immunisation campaigns. Probably because of this absence the figures for the year in question show that not more than 40% of infants under one year were protected—a failure which may very well bring retribution one day. A similar falling off is shown in the records of Infant Vaccination where only 75 out of a possible 160 babies born were vaccinated.

I should like once again to record my thanks to the Clerk to the Council, Mr. Tozer, the Surveyor, Mr. Rudgley, and especially the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Donald, and for the support I have once again received from the Sanitary and Housing Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

N. E. CHADWICK,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Population : 13,520.

BIRTHS :		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	..	84	66	150
Illegitimate	..	2	5	7
Birth Rate :		11.61 (Standard).		
		11.26 (Corrected).		

STILL BIRTHS : 4.

1. Rate per 1,000 Births : 25.47.

DEATHS :

Male .. 85

Female .. 84 Total : 169.

Death Rate : 12.5 (Standard).

12.12 (Corrected).

Number of women dying in or in consequence of Child-  
birth : Nil.

Death of infants under 1 year of age : 5.

Rate per 1,000 births : 31.84.

Deaths from :

Measles (all ages)	..	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	1
Pneumonia	..	4
Cancer (all forms)	..	30



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

### DRAINAGE.

The whole of the public roads in the district are sewered by gravitation on the water carriage system.

All houses in the District are connected to the public sewers with the following exceptions :

There are 14 houses served by cesspools, of these cesspools 10 have no sewerage facilities in the neighbourhood and 4 do not, as regards the statutory distance, come within the requirements of the Act.

In addition there are 12 houses, situate in outlying parts of the District, provided with earth closets.

All sewerage is discharged into intercepting sewers which are under the control of the Portslade and Southwick Outfall Sewerage Board. Disposal is by means of Sea Outfall owned by the Board.

SANITARY INSPECTOR. The Sanitary Inspector has prepared the following Annual Statement of his visits and notices :

Houses inspected for housing defects	..	261
Number of inspections made for the purpose		556
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	..	257
Number of inspections made for that purpose		486
Number of complaints received	.. ..	238
Informal Notices served (P.H. & H. Act)	..	107
Statutory Notices served	.. ..	1
Houses found dirty or verminous	..	14
Houses with insufficient refuse bin	..	9

Defective Drains	..	..	..	149
Defective Closets	..	..	..	26
Defective Sinks	..	..	..	4
Defective Roofs and Gutters		..	..	66
Damp and Defective Walls and Ceilings			..	60
Defective Floors	..	..	..	14
Defects to Windows, Doors, Grates, etc.			..	121

#### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The destruction of rats and mice has been successfully continued throughout the year, both in surface properties and in the Council's sewers.

During the year 118 infestations were dealt with on surface properties and two sewer treatments carried out.

The treatment is free to private properties but a small charge is made for business premises.

#### Eradication of bed bugs.

- (1) During the year 12 houses were found to be infested with vermin, and were disinfested as follows :
- (2) By removing and easing all woodwork, architraves, skirting-boards, etc., and spraying with insecticides, and in some cases by the use of gaseous fumigants.

This work has been carried out by the Council, and the cost of materials used has been charged to the Owner or Occupier.



## HOUSING ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED AT 31st DECEMBER, 1952.

Council Houses and Flats	..	..	542
Requisitioned Property	..	..	14
Old Peoples Bungalows	..	..	12
Temporary Houses	..	..	19

The position as to outstanding applications for accommodation is as follows :

Up to 2 in family	..	..	75
3 in family	..	..	107
4 or more in family	..	..	80
Aged persons (60 years of age or over)		..	34
Total			296

## INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	267
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	556
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	10
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	30
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	258

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	225
---	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :*A. *Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

- |     |   |            |
|-----|---|------------|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | <i>Nil</i> |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :  |            |
| (a) | By Owners   | 2          |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of Owners   | <i>Nil</i> |

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

- |     |   |            |
|-----|---|------------|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 1          |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :                |            |
| (a) | By Owners   | 1          |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of Owners   | <i>Nil</i> |

C. *Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

- |     |  |            |
|-----|--|------------|
| (1) | Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation               | <i>Nil</i> |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made                              | <i>Nil</i> |
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders                                 | <i>Nil</i> |
| (4) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners, Section 19 (2) : |            |
| (a) | To render the house fit for human habitation   | <i>Nil</i> |
| (b) | As to usage other than for human habitation  | <i>Nil</i> |

D. *Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

- |     |   |            |
|-----|---|------------|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | <i>Nil</i> |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | <i>Nil</i> |

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY. There is only 1 Farm in the district from which milk is supplied.

There is 1 Cowkeeper in the District, 21 shops where milk is sold in bottles only ; and 5 Retailers and Dairymen who deliver milk in this district.

ICE CREAM. There is 1 factory registered for manufacture of Ice Cream, and 47 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream.

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption :

52lbs. of beef,  $41\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of ham, 12 cwts. of bacon, 6 cwts. of butter, 4 cwts. 14lbs. margarine, 4cwts. 14lbs. lard, 2 cwts. 3 quarters 3lbs. of tea,  $52\frac{1}{2}$  dozen eggs, 1 cwt. 1 quarter 6lbs. of cheese, 15 cwts, 1 quarter 7lbs. of sugar, 601 cans of food, 101 jars of fruit and jam, 51 stones of fish.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

## PART 1 OF THE ACT.

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	27	25	4	<i>Nil</i>
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	55	32	1	<i>Nil</i>
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises) .. .. .	2	3	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
TOTAL ..	84	60	5	<i>Nil</i>

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) .. ..	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective .. ..	2	2	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	3	3	—	2	—



# TUBERCULOSIS.

	* New Cases				Deaths				Other Removals				Cases on Register				Totals
	Pul.		Non.		Pul.		Non.		Pul.		Non.		Pul.		Non.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
5—10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	3
10—15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5
15—20	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	1	—	7
20—25	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	5	2	1	11
25—35	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	15	8	1	—	24
35—45	3	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	13	9	1	—	23
45—65	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	6	—	3	21
Over 65.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	10	10	2	—	1	3	—	—	5	3	1	—	48	34	9	6	97

\* These figures include "Inward Transfers"



# PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1952.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.						Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	59
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	16
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	19
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	16
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	4

# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

1952.

AGE at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B).									
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total	
Number of Children who completed a Full Course of Primary Immunisation in the Authority's Area (including temporary residents) during the year ..	25	45	7	2	4	54	47	184	
Number of Children who received a Secondary (Reinforcing) Injection ( <i>i.e.</i> , subsequently to Primary Immunisation at an earlier age) during the year ..	—	—	—	3	14	155	111	283	

There were no cases of Diphtheria notified during the year.

VACCINATION ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952.

Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during Period.

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 and over	Total
Number Vaccinated ..	73	4	—	11	5	93
Number Re-Vaccinated ..	—	—	—	12	13	25

